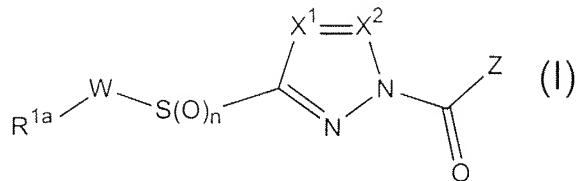


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Claims 1-9, and 13-15 are cancelled without prejudice and claims 16-17 are withdrawn from consideration

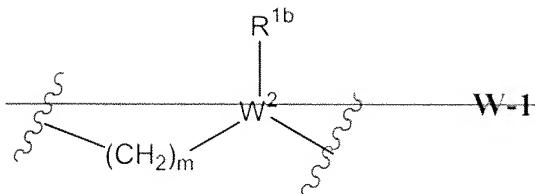
Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Cancelled)
2. (Previously Cancelled)
3. (Previously Cancelled)
4. (Previously Cancelled)
5. (Previously Cancelled)
6. (Previously Cancelled)
7. (Previously Cancelled)
8. (Previously Cancelled)
9. (Previously Cancelled)
10. (Currently amended) A method of treating or preventing diabetic diseases by using a dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibiting agent represented by the general formula (I):

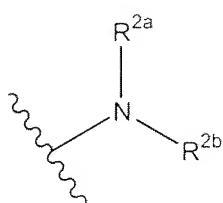


wherein R^{1a} represents a C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, a 5- to 10-membered aromatic heterocyclic group, a C₆₋₁₀ aromatic hydrocarbon-cyclic group, a 4- to 10-membered heterocyclic group, or a C₄₋₁₃ polycycloalkyl group;
n means an integer of 0 to 2;

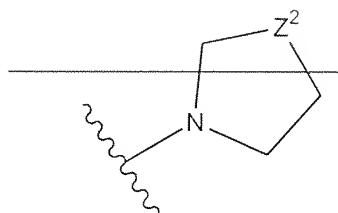
W represents a single bond, or a C₁₋₆ alkylene group, ~~or a group represented by following formula W-1:~~



wherein W^2 represents a nitrogen atom or methine group, m means an integer of 0 to 3, and R^{1b} represents a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl group, a 5-to-10-membered aromatic heterocyclic group, a C_{6-10} aromatic hydrocarbon cyclic group, a 4-to-10-membered heterocyclic group, or a C_{4-13} polycycloalkyl group; each of X^1 and X^2 independently represents a nitrogen atom or a methine group; X^1 represents a nitrogen atom, and X^2 represents a methine group; Z represents a group represented by following formula Z-1 or Z-2:



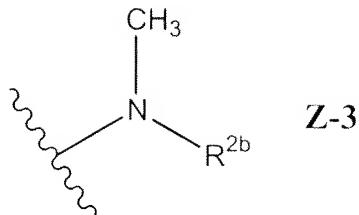
Z-1



Z-2

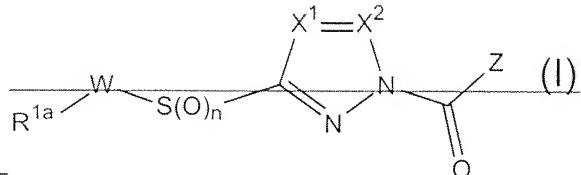
wherein each of R^{2a} and R^{2b} independently represents a C_{1-6} alkyl group, or a C_{2-6} alkenyl group, or a phenyl group, and Z^2 represents a sulfur atom or a methylene group; and wherein R^{1a} and R^{1b} may be substituted with one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of (1) halogen atoms, (2) a hydroxyl group, (3) C_{2-6} alkenyl groups, (4) C_{2-6} alkynyl groups, (5) a phenyl group, (6) a cyano group, (7) C_{1-6} alkoxy groups which may be substituted with one to three halogen atoms or C_{1-6} alkoxy groups, and (8) C_{1-6} alkyl groups which may be substituted with one to three halogen atoms or C_{1-6} alkoxy groups.

11. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein Z is a group represented by the following formula Z-3:



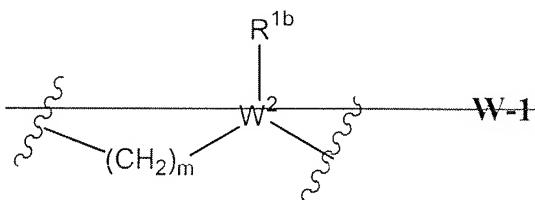
wherein R^{2b} represents a C_{1-6} alkyl group, or a C_{2-6} alkenyl group, or a phenyl group.

12. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein R^{1a} is a phenyl group or a 4-pyrazolyl group.
13. (Currently Cancelled) The method according to claim 10, wherein X^1 is a nitrogen atom, and X^2 is a methine group.
14. (Currently Cancelled) The method according to claim 10, wherein X^1 and X^2 are methine groups.
15. (Currently Cancelled) The method according to claim 10, wherein n is 1 or 2.
16. (Withdrawn) A method of treating or preventing obesity by using a dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibiting agent represented by the general formula (I):

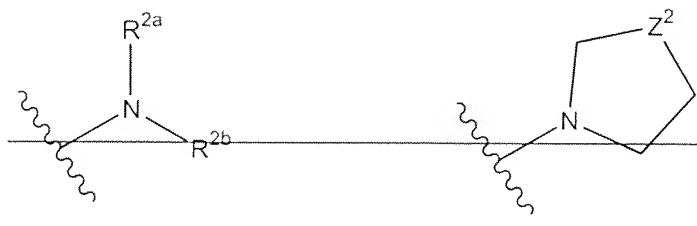


wherein R^{1a} represents a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl group, a 5-to-10 membered aromatic heterocyclic group, a C_{6-10} aromatic hydrocarbon cyclic group, a 4-to-10 membered heterocyclic group, or a C_{4-13} polycycloalkyl group;
 n means an integer of 0 to 2;

W represents a single bond, a C_{4-6} alkylene group, or a group represented by following formula W-1:



wherein W^2 represents a nitrogen atom or methine group, m means an integer of 0 to 3, and R^{4b} represents a C_{1-6} -alkyl group, a C_{3-8} -cycloalkyl group, a 5-to-10-membered aromatic heterocyclic group, a C_{6-10} -aromatic hydrocarbon cyclic group, a 4-to-10-membered heterocyclic group, or a C_{4-13} -polycycloalkyl group; each of X^1 and X^2 independently represents a nitrogen atom or a methine group; Z represents a group represented by following formula Z-1 or Z-2:

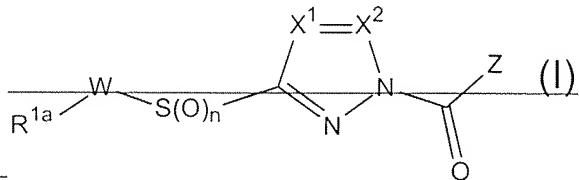


Z-1

Z-2

wherein each of R^{2a} and R^{2b} independently represents a C_{1-6} -alkyl group, a C_{2-6} -alkenyl group, or a phenyl group, and Z^2 represents a sulfur atom or a methylene group; and wherein R^{4a} and R^{4b} may be substituted with one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of (1) halogen atoms, (2) a hydroxyl group, (3) C_{2-6} -alkenyl groups, (4) C_{2-6} -alkynyl groups, (5) a phenyl group, (6) a cyano group, (7) C_{1-6} -alkoxy groups which may be substituted with one to three halogen atoms or C_{1-6} -alkoxy groups, and (8) C_{1-6} -alkyl groups which may be substituted with one to three halogen atoms or C_{1-6} -alkoxy groups.

17. (Withdrawn) A method of treating or preventing hyperlipemia, AIDS, osteoporosis, intestinal disorders, neovascularization, infertility, inflammation, allergy, immunomodulatory disorders, hormone-modulatory disorders, rheumatism or cancers by using a dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibiting agent represented by the general formula (I):

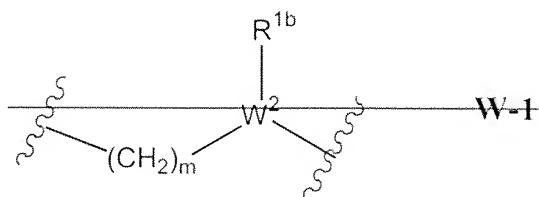


wherein R^{4a} represents a C_{1-6} -alkyl group, a C_{3-8} -cycloalkyl group, a 5-to-10-membered aromatic heterocyclic group, a C_{6-10} -aromatic hydrocarbon cyclic group, a 4-to-10-

membered heterocyclic group, or a C₄₋₁₃-polycycloalkyl group;

n means an integer of 0 to 2;

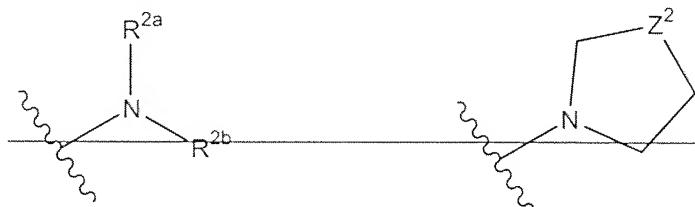
W represents a single bond, a C₁₋₆-alkylene group, or a group represented by following formula W-1:



wherein W² represents a nitrogen atom or methine group, m means an integer of 0 to 3, and R^{1b} represents a C₁₋₆-alkyl group, a C₃₋₈-cycloalkyl group, a 5-to-10-membered aromatic heterocyclic group, a C₆₋₁₀-aromatic-hydrocarbon cyclic group, a 4-to-10-membered heterocyclic group, or a C₄₋₁₃-polycycloalkyl group;

each of X¹ and X² independently represents a nitrogen atom or a methine group;

Z represents a group represented by following formula Z-1 or Z-2:



Z-1

Z-2

wherein each of R^{2a} and R^{2b} independently represents a C₁₋₆-alkyl group, a C₂₋₆-alkenyl group, or a phenyl group, and Z² represents a sulfur atom or a methylene group; and wherein R^{1a} and R^{1b} may be substituted with one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of (1) halogen atoms, (2) a hydroxyl group, (3) C₂₋₆-alkenyl groups, (4) C₂₋₆-alkynyl groups, (5) a phenyl group, (6) a cyano group, (7) C₁₋₆-alkoxy groups which may be substituted with one to three halogen atoms or C₁₋₆-alkoxy groups, and (8) C₁₋₆-alkyl groups which may be substituted with one to three halogen atoms or C₁₋₆-alkoxy groups.